

EAST ANGLIAN TRADITIONAL MUSIC TRUST

Vaughan Williams' Folk

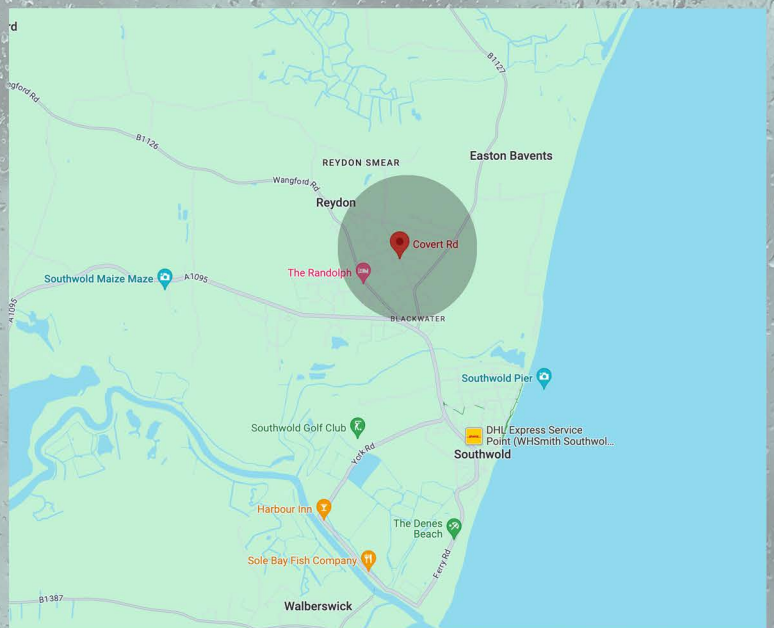
Forty Miles

Ralph Vaughan Williams and fellow composer George Butterworth visited the Southwold area in 1910. On October 25th they met 79 year old Charles Newby in the village of Reydon who sang 2 songs to them, including "Forty Miles". Charles was a former landlord of The White Horse beerhouse in the village of Reydon then later a coal merchant but was living in the recently built Almshouses when he met the composers in 1910.

The Reydon Almshouses (known as "The Rest" was a charitable housing development for eight people established by Andrew Matthews, a successful art dealer. Residents had to be natives of Southwold, have lived there for more than twenty years, have limited income, be over 65 years of age and be of good physical and mental health. The charity still exists today.

The map shows Reydon in Suffolk where the Almshouses are still located today.

Task: Different versions of the same song were collected from different singers. Other versions of this song are called "The Cottage By The Wood" and "Cold, Haily, Rainy, Night". Search for the other versions of this song and compare the different tunes and lyrics.



Reydon, Suffolk